**From:** Bill McAuley **On Behalf Of** PSIO-Intelligence
**Sent:** Sunday, February 13, 2022 6:06 PM
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**Subject:** PSIO SITREP UPDATE #18 – 13 Feb 2022 – Freedom Convoy Solidarity Activity

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION ONLY: SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS SITUATION DEVELOPS. INFORMATION MAY BE BASED ON UNCONFIRMED REPORTING.

**UPDATE #18**

**DATE/TIME:** February 13, 2022 @ 18:05 hrs

**PURPOSE:** To provide aggregated situational awareness regarding "Freedom Convoy" solidarity activity impacting Alberta.

**BACKGROUND:** No change.

**CURRENT STATUS:**

***Coutts Border Crossing & Milk River:***

- No additional updates from RCMP/SHP available at this time.
- 3 excavators located near the COUTTS crossing have reportedly been damaged. Social media posts indicate electrical and fuelling components were cut or interfered with. [Conflicting allegations have been circulating on social media regarding this activity.]
- Chris SACCOCCIA (a.k.a. Chris Sky) has posted videos showing he is present in MILK RIVER. No issues relating to his presence have been reported. [SACCOCIA has been a prominent figure within the anti-public health order (PHO) movement since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. He has had multiple encounters with law enforcement throughout the pandemic period and is currently facing a number of charges related to his protest activities and individual actions. Most notably he has been charged with three counts of uttering death threats, as well one count each of assaulting a peace officer with a weapon and dangerous operation of a vehicle following a 12 May 2021 encounter with law enforcement in TORONTO, ON.]

***Alberta Legislature / McDougall Centre***

- Nothing significant to report from LEGISLATURE campus.

***City of Edmonton & Environs***

- A social media account has been created to coordinate counter-protest against future 'Freedom Convoys' using the tagline "Community together against convoys and cops". [The operators of this social media account have aligned with messaging posted by CLIMATE JUSTICE EDMONTON leaders who organized the 12 Feb blockade on RIVER VALLEY ROAD. The account mixes calls to defund police with reposts of content from the Ottawa counter-protest blockade, and posts promoting future blockades in Edmonton. At the time of writing, the account had attracted approx. 140 followers.]

***City of Calgary & Environs***

- No additional updates at this time.

***Regional Municipalities / Rural***

- No additional updates at this time.

***Ottawa "Freedom Convoy 2022"***

- Together with the OPP and the RCMP, the Ottawa Police Service establishment an enhanced, Integrated Command Centre (ICC) on 12 Feb in response to a significant influx of demonstrators into the Ottawa area and escalation of the current occupation. In downtown Ottawa, over 4,000 demonstrators were present throughout Sat 12 Feb. Safety concerns - arising from aggressive, illegal behaviour by many demonstrators - limited police enforcement capabilities.
- A counter protest was held by Ottawa residents on 13 Feb that blocked approx. 25 'Freedom Convoy' vehicles who were moving towards downtown OTTAWA. The vehicles were reportedly held in place by counter-protestors from 09:00 to 15:40. Media reports indicate Ottawa police provided an escort to vehicles departing the location.
- In an exchange of open letters, Ottawa Mayor WATSON offered to meet with protestors if they agreed to the following terms:
    - *Remove all trucks from the residential districts south of Wellington Street, and from all other residential areas including the market, the Ottawa Baseball Stadium on Coventry, etc.;*
    - *Agree to not backfill the residential areas currently occupied with trucks, other vehicles and/or demonstrators; and*
    - *Agree to not displace the truck convoy, vehicles and/or demonstrators to other residential areas in the City of Ottawa.*
- Ottawa 'Freedom Convoy 2022' protest organizer Tamara LICH responded in a letter to WATSON that the Freedom Convoy Board had agreed to the terms, and asked for time to coordinate the removal of vehicles.

***Other Provinces / National***

- EMERSON, MB BORDER CROSSING - as of 16:39 hrs Sun 13 Feb MB RCMP report:
    - Semi-trailers, farm implements, and passenger vehicles blocked access to the Canada/United States border at EMERSON, MB in the early morning hours of February

10, 2022. There was an initial estimate of 50 vehicles at the establishment of the blockade.
    - As of 14:30 hrs Central 13 Feb, the number of vehicles participating in the blockade was approximately 75 vehicles. This number continues to fluctuate as vehicles arrive and depart the blockade.
    - All four lanes of Highway 75 at Provincial Road 200 remain blocked. Police are advising motorists to expect substantial delays and to avoid the Emerson area. The weather in the area is also extremely poor with officers reporting blizzard conditions.
    - Emergency vehicles, including police vehicles, as well as some agriculture transports continue to have access through the blockade, but otherwise there continues to be no traffic flow in the area.
    - To date, no tickets have been issued and no arrests have been made.
- PACIFIC HIGHWAY BORDER CROSSING - as of 15:48 hrs 13 Feb, BC RCMP report:
    - SURREY RCMP is confirming that four people have been taken into custody for Mischief at the protests.
    - Some of the vehicles and protestors who stayed overnight Saturday have now packed up and left the area.
    - The area near the border remains blocked off by police on 176 Street and feeder routes, and the border crossing remains closed at this time.

***International***

- Not assessed at this time.

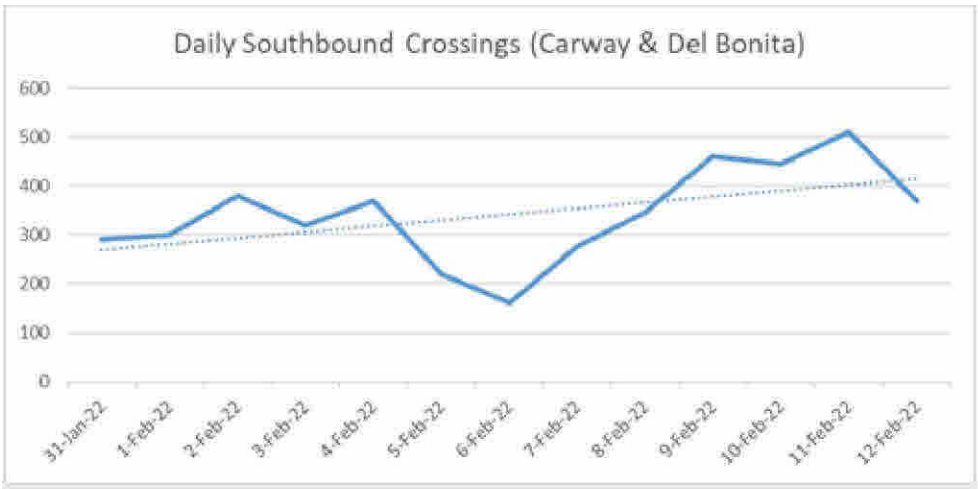
**MINISTRY UPDATES:**

***Justice & Solicitor General (JSG):***

- GOA has purchased 2 heavy, 2 medium, and 2 light tow trucks. SHP members staging equipment at secured facility in Lethbridge.
- JSG continues to assist with sourcing of equipment such as heavy wreckers, flat deck tow trucks, light tow trucks, and trailer/tow units.

***Transportation (TRANS):***

- Commercial traffic entering Canada that requires inspection has been diverted to the ports of NORTH PORTAL, SK, REGWAY, SK, ROOSVILLE, BC AND KINGSGATE, BC.
    - CBSA is reporting there has been protest activity in the area of ROOSVILLE, BC and also some highway construction.
    - CBSA recommends commercial traffic divert to KINGSGATE BC.
- Commercial traffic that does not require inspections is passing through CARWAY AB, DEL BONITA AB and ADEN AB. [Confirmed 13 Feb]
- SWEETGRASS remains open to process commercial traffic exiting Canada that requires inspection, after diversion through DEL BONITA.


Daily Southbound Crossings (Carway & Del Bonita)
600
500
400
300
200
100
0
31-Jan-22
1-Feb-22
2-Feb-22
3-Feb-22
4-Feb-22
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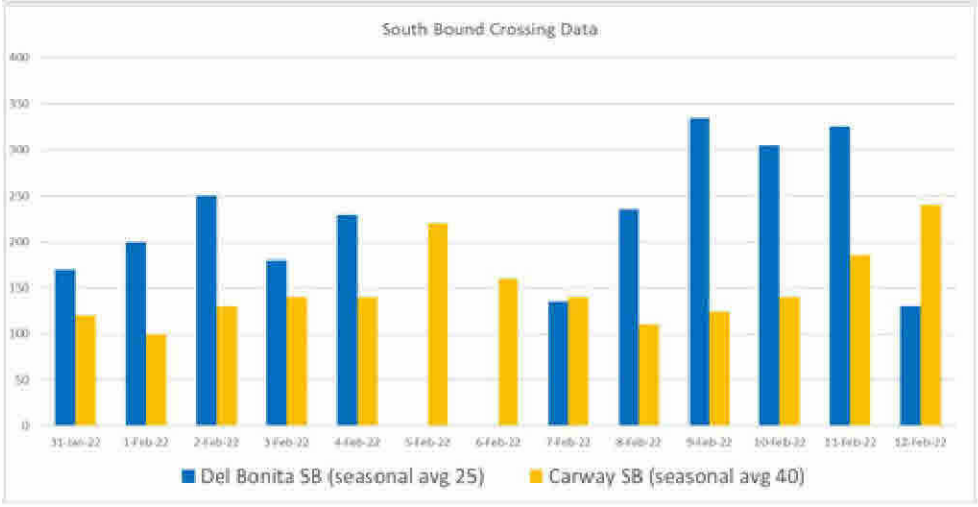
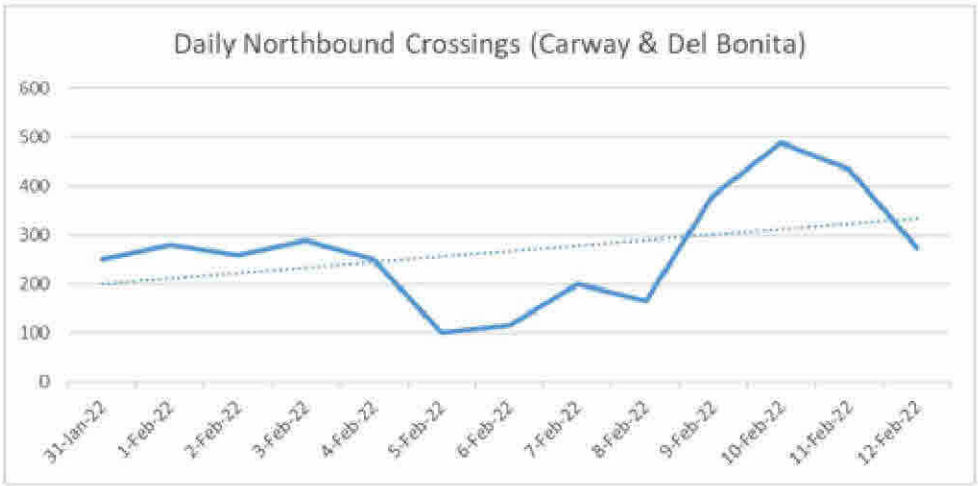
12-Feb-22


South Bound Crossing Data
Del Bonita SB (seasonal avg 25)
Carway SB (seasonal avg 40)


Daily Northbound Crossings (Carway & Del Bonita)
600
500
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31-Jan-22
1-Feb-22
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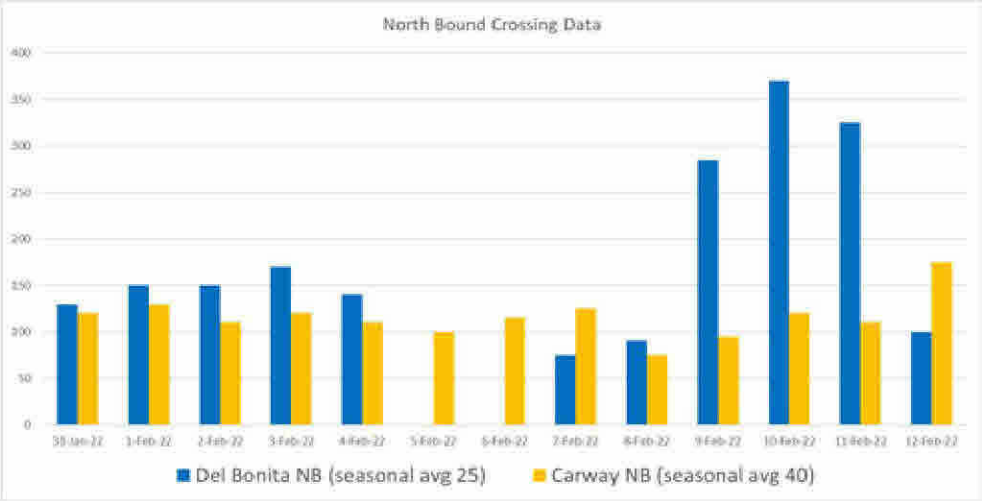


***Municipal Affairs:***

- No change.

***Jobs, Economy, and Innovation (JEI):***

- No change.

***Agriculture, Forestry, and Rural Economic Development (AFRED):***

- No change.

**ASSESSMENT & STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS:**

- No change.

**FORECAST:**

- Planning for recurrent events during weekend 19-20 Feb appear to be underway.

**PREPARED BY:** Intelligence Bureau, Provincial Security & Intelligence Office (PSIO)

**DISTRIBUTION:**
GOA: *EXEC:* DM//COS//PO COS//PO Issues Manager | *JSG:* MINO COS//DM//ADSG//COS//ADM PSD//ED LEOB//ED PSIO//ED Sheriffs//DIR EM//DIR Int Bureau | *TRANS:* DM//ADM Planning, Procurement & Tech Stds | *MA:* DM | *Health:* DM | *JEI:* DM//ED Industry & Regional Rel. | *AFRED:* DM//ED Food Safety
RCMP: KDEOC//KDCAS

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